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WRL NEWS

98

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POP SONGS CALENDAR

With an introduction by Pete Seeger, the 1971 Peace Calendar features lyrics of current popular songs by the Beattles, Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, etc. Mayer Vishner, an expert on the subject, has made the selection which is entitled "When The Mode of the Music Changes."

Despite inflation, the price has not gone up. It is $2 apiece, $5 for three, $10 for six—post-paid. Gift cards will be inserted upon request. Though the calendar won't be ready until the last of November, you can order *now*.

ANTI-DRAFT TOUR IN MIDWEST

Just as the school year was ending WRL asked Mike Russell and Dave Giltinan if they would spend the summer touring the colleges and building on the tremendous student activism which followed the invasion of Cambodia. There were problems: Giltinan and Russell were arrested in Washington for closing down the local draft board. Consequently, only Russell was free to travel. The microbus purchased for the trip broke down and, with school out for the summer, organizing proved hard. Nevertheless the project went well. Russell himself had been active in draft resistance program, at Charlottesville, Virginia, He was one of those who drafted the "Charlottesville Pledge" which says that if 100,000 sign all the signers will "strike the draft", return their draft cards and refuse further cooperation of any kind with selective service.

He reports that traditional resistance groups in the Midwest (CADRE, TCDIC) are suffering from a lack of manpower but that the resistance is generally encouraged by evidence that the draft is collapsing as a consequence of increased noncooperation. Selective Service has admitted that the wave of resistance is currently hampering its work. This is one reason for the recent decision to use the National Guard rather than the draft to meet emergency manpower demands.

Mike Russell spent the summer in Nebraska, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and at the convention of the National Student Association. An important result was that the NSA adopted the Charlottesville pledge, and the prospect of a serious student "draft strike" is a real one as the new semester begins. Copies of the pledge can be gotten directly from their headquarters: Char-

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HIROSHIMA DAY—25th ANNIVERSARY

A Tree Is Planted at Bomb's Birthplace

photos by Craig Simpson

"Our march began in the rain from Ashley Park to the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, a complex known as Atomic City," writes Tina Sutter. "Sig Martinez (Co-coordinator of WRL-Southwest, which initiated the demonstration—the other co-coordinator is Craig Simpson) carried the Japanese cherry tree which we were to plant in memory of Hiroshima's 200,000 victims (photo at left). The marshals carried large paper-maché heads symbolizing the burned ghosts of Hiroshima.

"As we grouped around the flag in front of the lab, we sang 'Give Peace a Chance' with considerable emotion. People inside the lab assembled at the windows to watch. Then the ceremony opened with planting of the tree in front of the flag (photo at right). Many joined in the digging—children and adults, learned and unlearned, hip and straight, black, yellow and white. A few of us, in fear of the tree being removed, planted peach seeds."

(The fear was not unjustified. According to the Albuquerque Journal: "Late Thursday night, Los Alamos police reported the 'peace tree' had been removed by 'person or persons unknown.' A spokesman for the laboratory said he assumed the theft was a federal crime.")

After the tree-planting, Delbert Sundberg, the lab's public relations director, spoke on the demonstrators' proposals, which included discontinuance of weapons

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HIROSHIMA DAY—25th ANNIVERSARY *(continued)*

research and devotion to peaceful uses. Another proposal called for suspension of lab work annually on Hiroshima and Nagasaki days.

According to the Albuquerque Journal: "Sundberg nervously speaking in a low tone as the spectators strained to hear, said the laboratory was operated by the federal government and any changes would have to be inaugurated by government officials. "I will give these suggestions to Dr. Bradbury,' he said afterwards." ("Despite pleas for the appearance of LASL Director, Dr. Norris Bradbury, he failed to appear and reportedly watched the proceedings from his office window in the four-story building," stated the Journal.)

"Nevertheless," concluded Tina Sutter in her report, "we felt that planting the tree and the peach seeds at the birthplace of the A-bomb did have some impact, symbolically."

Floating Lanterns in New York

"On Hiroshima Eve, WRL conducted a lantern-floating ceremony at one of the lakes in New York's Central Park," writes Wendy Schwartz. "As the mounted lanterns were set afloat, two visiting Japanese peace emissaries spoke at the lakeside. One of them, an English professor at Hiroshima, read poems which he had written, himself, about the 1945 holocaust. WRLers read some poetry.

"At the end of the evening, several of the group played guitars and sang freedom songs. The lake looked beautiful with all the glowing lanterns, which in the Buddhist tradition, represented the souls of the Hiroshima victims. Then, we wandered off into the night, which had started-off rainy but ended quite clear."

Tax Protest in San Francisco

"Hiroshima Day came and went quietly, to speak as positively as I can about our WRL-West plan to tie in war tax resistance with a 4-day commemoration of our nation's war crime of 1945," writes Paul Obluda. "The crowds were small and so was the number of interested persons who came forward. One young man told me: 'That all happened before I was born. I don't want to come out for anything about Hiroshima: if it were something concerning now, I might be interested."

"So we regrouped for yet another time and decided that there is no other way to press our tax resistance campaign other than the day-by-day organizing work aimed at getting people to sign pledges on both income and telephone tax refusal."

NEW LITERATURE

WAR RESISTANCE IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE. A 23-page mini-"Conscience in America" by Larry Gara, history professor, and longtime WRLer jailed back in 1947 for counseling draft resistance. A Pendle Hill pamphlet 55c

UP AGAINST THE WAR. Today's war resisters, including Staff Member Peter Kiger, and others personally familiar to WRLers tell their own stories in an anthology by Norma Sue Woodstone. Paperback 95c

NONVIOLENT REVOLUTION. A study kit prepared by WRL-West which contains training guides and essays by Albert Camus, Cesar Chavez, Ira Sandperl, etc. $1.50

WRL HIGH SCHOOL KIT. Articles of interest to students on the draft, Vietnam, Women's Lib, drugs, and Huey Newton. Included is a special organizing manual for school . . . . . $1.

THE PROBLEM OF PRISONS. David Greenberg's study of prisons which concludes by calling for their abolition. An AFSC pamphlet 75c

BLACK DRAFT RESISTERS: DOES ANYBODY CARE? A 1-page (legal-size-printed on both sides) fact sheet on this much-neglected topic by Southern Conference Educational Fund—single copies free from WRL. Quantity orders should be placed with SCEF. 3210 W. Broadway, Louisville, Ky. 40211

BRIEFS

Petitions to the UN "to end genocide" are being circulated by the Continuations Committee of the Emergency Conference to Defend the Right of the Black Panther Party to Exist. They can be obtained from the Committee in Room 907, 33 Union Square, New York, N.Y. 10003.

* * *

Economic Action for Peace, a coalition of Northern California groups, is boycotting six companies deeply involved in the war and with vulnerable consumer products. They are General Motors, General Electric, AT&T, RCA, Standard Oil of California and Bank of America. For further information, write Judy Roizen, Survey Research Center, 2220 Piedmont, Univ. of Calif., Berkeley, Calif.

* * *

"I happened to see one of your "Practice Nonviolence' tags hanging on an Army jeep and I really thought that was beautiful," wrote Nicholas Dudish of Ilion, N.Y. "I then *had* to write you to ask for more information about your organization." (Increasingly popular, these tags are available for $1 per 100)

* * *

Bob Eaton, imprisoned CO, writes: "I have been denied parole because, in the words of one parole board member, I'm a 'threat to society.' "

Anti-Draft Tour in Midwest *(con't)*

lottesville Pledge, 128 Chancellor St., Charlottesville, Va. 22903.

One concrete result of Mike's travels is the plan for a state-wide resistance conference in Wisconsin and a special program for draft counselors in Minneapolis-St. Paul. The WRL hopes to find other college-age activists for similar organizing tours this fall and spring.

START TOUR IN NORTHWEST

"Five of us have raised a little money, bought a $400 panel truck and are about to head north through California, Oregon and Washington during October and early November," reports Paul Obluda of WRL-West. "We will talk about the totality of the new way of life with heavy emphasis on draft and tax resistance. We will be staying at communes and city co-ops and have to concentrate our organizing on college towns and in high schools of larger cities. Our group includes a young man just out of prison for draft refusal, two non-registrants, and maybe, one or two young women, plus one older male, an alleged expert on how to refuse your income tax and stay out of jail, at least for a while.

"Anyone who has addresses of people who might be interested in having our small group visit them might write me at 544 Natoma St., San Francisco, 94103, as soon as possible. The mail will be forwarded to us in Oregon and Washington."

If you know any members of the American Federation of Teachers, speak to them about the union membership referendum on the war to be held this fall. "Although we have some 10,000 people on our mailing list, we must reach additional teachers at every level," points our Coordinator Rebecca Berman of Teachers Committee for Peace in Vietnam.

ENROLLMENT BLANK

Send to War Resisters League
339 Lafayette Street, N. Y., N.Y. 10012

WAR IS A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY. I THEREFORE AM DETERMINED NOT TO SUPPORT ANY KIND OF WAR, INTERNATIONAL OR CIVIL, AND TO STRIVE FOR THE REMOVAL OF ALL THE CAUSES OF WAR

_____
signature

_____
address

_____
city

_____
state *zip code*

LONG LABOR BUT BIRTH BEGINS

by Jerry Coffin

The Strategy Action Conference held in Milwaukee September 11, 12 and 13 was a followup to the June Strategy Action Conference which was attended by over seven hundred movement activists. At the earlier conference it was decided to organize regional conferences which would elect delegates to a second national conference. These delegates plus representatives of various national movement groups such as the War Resisters League made up the attenders to the second national Strategy Action Conference.

The purpose of the Conference was to draw together the decisions of the regional conferences (17 were held) and provide a national framework that would maximize the impact of local and regional actions.

Following the May 9 demonstration in Washington there was widespread dissatisfaction with the New Mobe and its role in the movement. Many segments of the movement, particularly local radical collectives, were upset by what they saw as a centralized decision-making apparatus that had created a series of lowest common denominator actions that did not reflect the needs and desires of the movement at large. Whether or not this assessment was accurate is irrelevant. The fact that among the more or less fulltime movement activists that make up the nation's organizing cadre that assessment of the New Mobe had wide acceptance. Also, among this group there was dissatisfaction over what was perceived as a lack of participation in decision-making by poor and third world people. The result was that among the group that is largely depended-on to do the work of a coalition there was a general feeling that the New Mobe did not speak to or for them and generally lacked legitimacy as a coalition.

Another force that bears on the conference is the role of the Trotskyist groups in the New Mobe coalition. Following May 9, Trotskyists elements of the coalition withdrew and began working to form their own coalition. They withdrew because of fundamental political differences over the general drift of the coalition to a multi-issue varied tactics position, including civil disobedience. The Trotskyist elements (Socialist Workers Party, Young Socialist Alliance, Student Mobilization Committee) organized an early summer conference which formed the National Peace Action Coalition (NPAC) and called for the October 31 anti-war marches and rallies that will be taking place in some dozen cities.

In response to these pressures which by and large destroyed the New Mobe as a viable coalition a number of movement groups and individuals called for the first Strategy Action Conference. The groups involved ranged from what was left of the New Mobe, to SCLC, to the Black Panther Party, to National Welfare Rights Organization, to Chicano groups and the traditional peace type groups. It was as a follow-up to this conference and its history that we met in Milwaukee.

There were about sixty delegates at the second Milwaukee conference. They represented a good cross section of the movement including a significant percentage of black people, representatives of NWRO, and the Chicano Moratorium. The politics of the group was clearly radical and clearly multi-issue and open to varied tactical approaches. While there were representatives of Trotskyist groups in attendance (as delegates from national organizations) their attitude was clearly one of hands off. With the exception of a report on the NPAC October 31 demonstration, they didn't participate in discussions.

With the withdrawal of Trotskyists from active participation, the Communist party has expanded its role. At both the earlier and later Strategy Action Conference the CP sent relatively large delegations of some of their most capable and articulate members. This seems to indicate that the CP believes the Strategy Action Conference contains the seeds of a significant coalition with political strength. On the other hand they could simply be filling a "moderate Marxist-Leninist" vacuum left by the Trotskyists. Of far more importance is the active participation by various black Chicano and Welfare Rights groups. Their participation seems to indicate a real desire to join in common cause with the anti war movement in attacking war, racism, sexism and repression.

The discussions over a strategy for the next eight to twelve months were interesting but unproductive. While we were able to agree politically in broad outlines the political specifics necessary to construct a strategy were simply too different. What we did agree on was a general perspective and a few specifics that agree with the perspectives. The perspective was that we wanted to build a national coordinating coalition responsive and responsible to local movement and local initiative. The coalition should be multi issue trying to work with the widest movement against, war, racism, sexism, imperialism and build support for welfare rights.

What was agreed on organizationally was the creation of an interim committee that would form a national council for the National Coalition Against War, Racism, and Repression. The interim committee is made up of people selected by half a dozen or so conference caucuses. The National Council will be made up of delegates from regional councils, national organizations and students with the bulk of the delegates coming from the regions. The composition will be 50% third world, 50% women, 50% poor and/or welfare rights. (Obviously for that to add up to 100% some people will fit in more than one category, i.e. a black woman active in welfare rights.) It's hoped that this National Council will be in operation in about a month. The National Council will be responsible for maintaining a communications center and publishing a regular action bulletin, identifying support for special projects, projecting and coordinating national actions and assisting with local and regional projects where asked.

In the area of specific actions taken by the Strategy Action Conference the following decisions were made. (The full texts of all resolutions are available from WRL). It was decided to support the UAW strike and endeavor to show strikers the relationship of strike issues with the war. It was decided to support the Chicano rallies being organized on September 16 (Mexican Independence Day). Since all the regional actions fell within a one month period in the fall it was decided that the conference would support actions during the period of October 15, 1970 to November 15, 1970, and give full support to any actions organized in defense of Bobby Seale. A call for international protest in solidarity was also issued.

There are three proposals that merit close consideration. The first empowered the Interim Committee to call a National Action in response to the visit to this country by Nguyen Cao Ky. The second was to support and work with the National Welfare Rights Organization. Because of its importance here is the full text of that resolution.

"We urge this SAC conference to begin taking positive steps in relationship with the NWRO. The attitude which has been projected both at this conference and the first is

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XUM

ATLANTA WORKSHOP... NONVIOLENT PICKETING

by Maxine Rock

(Reprinted from the Atlanta Journal/

"Most people think that violence is wrong, and that killing is immoral. But in addition we believe it doesn't work. That's why we're against the war—against any kind of killing—and against violence in protesting the war."

The slender young man leaned back in his chair and frowned. He ran his thin fingers through his hair, then stroked his neat, reddish-brown beard. "I hope we can make people understand that although we may dress a little different, or talk a little different, we really want what everyone else wants: a good, peaceful life for ourselves and for future generations."

The young man is Steve Hipps, current director of the Atlanta Workshop in Nonviolence. Based in a shabby but spacious suite of offices in northeast Atlanta, the workshop is dedicated to what Hipps calls "nonviolent political action."

"We believe nonviolent action is useful whenever people have a grievance and they feel the traditional political redress is inadequate," Hipps said. "Sure we need some changes but we have a great country, and I hope we can get the changes we need by cooperating, not by slitting one another's throats."

The workshop was founded three years ago by a young married couple whose primary objective was to counsel conscientious objectors and organize nonviolent demonstrations against the war in Vietnam. Since then, the workshop has branched out considerably.

"We still counsel CO's, but we also are involved in nonviolent action to clean up the environment, educate the public about the war, and a variety of other important social issues," Hipps said.

"There's so much to do," he murmured. "I wonder if we have the time to do it before things get out of hand."

Henry Bass, the dark-haired college teacher who formed the workshop with his wife, Sue still helps Hipps in the office. His most pressing current project however, is writing a book outlining an historical and theoretical account of nonviolent direct action.

Bass believes that America is a violent nation, and hopes the trend will not continue.

"We may not necessarily be the most violent country in the world, but we are violent," he said. "And I'm not sure it's just us; it seems to be in the nature of the human animal to be inclined toward violence. America has brought out that nature by stressing competition and the idea of conquering; conquer the Indians, conquer the slaves, conquer the land.

"And now we have to learn to cooperate with one another and with our environment, or there may not be anything left in a little while."

According to Bass, the young people are rebelling against the "compete and conquer" theory. They want a more peaceful type of life. Why, then, are students resorting to violence on the campus and in the streets?

"Well, young people are very frustrated these days." Bass said. "They have a feeling that they're not being represented in government. But whatever their reasons, the workshop is against their use of any type of violence, and we hope they'll see that it just frightens and hurts people, and doesn't accomplish anything in the long run."

Hipps agreed. "I think the students are realizing now that they're not going to accomplish anything by violence," he said. "And a lot of campus leaders are now trying to tone down the rough stuff and concentrate on peaceful, intelligent discussions and demonstrations.

"It's easier to exaggerate the violence in the newspapers and on television," Hipps added. "But don't be fooled by it. There's a lot of behind-the-scenes peaceful work going on."

The "peaceful work" about which Hipps spoke includes picketing, boycotts, discussions, demonstrations, legal draft resistance, and even refusal to pay taxes for military projects.

"These are all alternatives to just screaming your head off or throwing a rock through a window," Bass noted. "And they certainly accomplish a lot more. It's really the democratic way of securing social change."

Once again, Hipps nodded in agreement. "Democracy is such a marvelous thing," he said. "If you keep your cool, and discuss issues and try to reach intelligent agreements, it can work so beautifully.

"America is at a crossroads now; we could either go up in flames or go forward peacefully. I hope we take the nonviolent path."

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one of verbal commitment only. We are asking for a more positive and relevant commitment.
The following steps should be taken by this conference in order to move in a more positive manner:

1. SAC in its long-range projection for actions and involvement should maintain a constant involvement with NWRO actions on both a national and local level. NWRO has an action calendar and there is always some drive or problem which attending this SAC can relate to on the basis of ending the war.
2. Friends of NWRO groups should be established by all SAC members.
3. There should be an immediate policy of contacting the local NWRO chapter in the different regions, and their maximum participation should be encouraged. This is to take place at the end of this conference."

Finally a consultation committee was appointed to consult with other national and regional groups on a proposal that a massive nonviolent civil disobedience action be planned for May 1. The nature of this action would be an ultimatum issued in early October to Nixon stating that unless there is an end to the war by April 30, 1971, masses of people will descend on Washington and undertake to close down the institutions that promote war, poverty and repression.

The movement is in a weak position this fall. The actions planned are scattered and largely inappropriate to the seriousness of the current period. I'm hoping that the new National Coalition will be able to provide the needed coordination to make spring actions more relevant to what is a rapidly deteriorating domestic and world situation. At the same time it's clear that any drift towards elitism or the weakening of regional power in the Coalition's National Council will destroy the Coalition before it gets off the ground.

WRL has played an important role in the growth of the movement. We've been active in every major coalition activity of the past decade. We will continue to be active in the National Coalition. Currently we're represented on both the Interim Committee and the May Action Consultation Committee. We hope to act as faithful representatives of the WRL membership.

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

by Wendy Schwartz

The new "in" term in movement circles is "getting our shit together." And as much as it might offend the ears of more sensitive pacifists "getting our shit together" was nevertheless the theme of this year's WRL conference.

There were the usual discussions, lectures, and workshops. Francois DeLucy, a Canadian anarchist, and David McReynolds our own American socialist told where they think the movement is going this year and what we can best do to send it there faster. David Miller and Tom Cornell talked about their jail experiences. Bob Freeston of CADRE was quite encouraging when he said that from all indications the Chicago people have, the draft and military is crumbling under the steady resistance pressure we have been applying. And we heard good reports from local organizers—the people from Atlanta, San Francisco, Syracuse, Twin Cities, Albuquerque, Chicago—so it seems like the movement is finally spreading around.

But the major raps at the conference were about WRL's relation to local groups. Local organizers who have a hard time funding their projects and who look to the national office for support have in the past been disappointed. We talked of offering free—or on consignment—literature as a financial base, and discussed the difficulties the national office faces in having to make decisions about which new groups deserve support and which don't merit it. Essentially the financial disagreement was worked out, and WRL plans to continue its policy of funding or giving grants to new groups that have potential.

The problem of communication between locals and the national organization was also discussed. Many of the difficulties stem from just misinformation that filters through the country in an unofficial way. A letter from Paul Obluda (WRL-West) to the national office about a month ago indicated that some of the local people were having a hard time adjusting to the policies of WRL when they in their areas were living what they think is a more revolutionary way of life. We tried to get it together on that subject, and to build a closer relationship between the different offices, so at least even if the differences still exist people will be more able to understand the reason for them. The people in hard-to-organize areas (like Albuquerque and Atlanta) were concerned that the others didn't fully understand the additional problems they face—financial, police harassment, etc.—and felt that not enough was being done to get them started. In order to make the policy-making decisions in WRL more democratic, that is—more representative of the different geographical areas, a new national executive committee is going to be set up.

> The long-delayed election of a national committee for the WRL will take place shortly. The total number of NC members to be elected will be decided at the next meeting of the Executive Committee, based on the recommendations of the WRL's National Conference. Five or more members may nominate candidates for the NC. If less than five members nominate someone, the nomination will be considered by the Executive Committee. *The deadline for all nominations is November 1.*

It will be composed of representatives from all parts of the country, with additional reps sent by each of the local organizations. The group will meet twice a year at some mutually convenient spot, and will discuss League plans for the coming six months. In between, the national office will send out copies of all decisions made by the present executive committee (that group, out of physical necessity is largely from the NYC area) at the monthly meetings. Ostensibly, the present executive committee will become the working committee of the national executive committee. Hopefully the first meeting of the national executive committee can take place early next year.

The vibes at the conference got better as the days progressed. By the end of the sessions on Labor Day everyone seemed enthusiastic about the programs we worked out and were eager to get back to their base to put into practice some of the new techniques they picked up at the workshops. And we even managed to relate to the people of Gowen, Michigan, where the conference was held. There's nothing like a pitcher of beer to bridge political gaps and some good live country music to soothe a barfull of people with a wide variety of philosophical persuasions. We didn't win too many converts—if even one—but there's a whole new group in the Midwest now who understand that people with long hair aren't bent upon destroying property, fighting with the Communists against the U.S., and taking beer away from local people. And that's the way we start.

International Report

by David McReynolds

In late July, I was sent by the WRL to attend the annual meeting of the Council of the International Confederation for Disarmament and Peace, meeting in London, and the Council of the War Resisters International, meeting in Namur, Belgium. The ICDP meeting was small and not terribly encouraging but it was good to have present two delegates from Yugoslavia. (The ICDP is the confederation of both pacifist and non-pacifist peace groups and its work has been hampered by the disintegration in recent years of the non-pacifist nuclear disarmament groups—such as SANE—that had sprung up in Europe in the late fifties and early sixties).

The War Resisters International meeting was impressive both for the range covered by the Council members —Vo Van Ai of Vietnam and Narayan Desai, of India, were both present—and also for the relative youth of the Council members. Candy Putter, who had been traveling in Europe at the time, was present to share in representing the U.S. The Council took up a range of problems, including the need to help defend a group of young Israeli CO's, and the drafting of a policy statement on international aid as it relates to under-developed nations. A major document on nonviolent revolution, how it can be achieved and what it would look like, is still being worked out by a study group set up after the WRI Conference of Haverford, Pa., last year. Among the projects for the coming year will be a joint study group with the Soviet-oriented World Peace Council in an effort to continue and deepen the communication between these two bodies which has been taking place for nearly ten years. Special greetings were sent to the Buddhists in Vietnam in their nonviolent struggle for peace, and to Randy Kehler, an elected member of the Council, who was unable to attend because of his current imprisonment.

WRL members who want to keep up with the work of our international—at the present time the strongest of the non-aligned peace internationals—should send $1.50 to the international office for a subscription to the quarterly magazine, War Resistance. Write: WRI, 3 Caledonian Rd., London N. 1, England.

XUM

ORGANIZING NOTES

by Jerry Coffin

At the recent WRL National Conference it became evident that a member of our members are unaware of active WRL locals in their area. Here is a current list of local WRL offices and a little on what they're about. The list will be run on a regular basis in *WIN* magazine.

WRL-West (Western Region Offices, 833 Haight Street, San Francisco, California 94117. (415) 626-6976

WRL West is heavily into war tax resistance. They have an ongoing non-registration and high school organizing program. They are direct action oriented and operate as a collective. Call Tom Coats for information.

Atlanta Workshop in Nonviolence (Southern Region Office), P.O. Box 7477, Atlanta, Georgia 30309. (404) 875-0646

AWIN is involved in organizing the Atlanta hip community. They deal with issues of racism, war, draft and ecology and are direct action oriented. They maintain an ongoing draft counseling program. (still radical in the south). AWIN is very active in south-wide organizing. Call Steve Hipps for information.

WRL-Southwest (Southwest Region office), 116-B Hermosa S.E., Albuquerque, N.M. 87108. (505) 268-8871

WRL Southwest is direct action oriented organizing on the issues of nuclear disarmament, war, and racism. They have a heavy Chicano rights program and are involved in Southwestern organizing. They organize conferences on nonviolence and are active in the Free University. If you're in and around Albuquerque contact Craig Simpson. If you're in other areas of the Southwest, contact Sig Martinez.

Canton WRL, P.O. Box 8163, Canton, Ohio 44709.

This is a high school oriented group. It fell apart last spring due to a combination of factors primarily of a repressive nature. They are now reorganizing and need help. Contact Bruce Hennes at the above address or Jeff Miller, 6115 Pickwick Circle, N.W., North Canton, Ohio 44720.

Delaware WRL, 530 Tamara Circle, Newark, Delaware 19711. (302) 737-4450.

These folks have an ambitious program dealing with imperialism, racism, welfare rights, sexism and a variety of other radical issues. They have an on-going high school organizing project and work regularly with welfare rights folk. They publish a tri-weekly newspaper and maintain a community store in their office. Contact Ed Sohodski for information on how you help.

Albany WRL, Box 1237, Albany, N.Y. 12201.

Albany WRL is direct action and radical education oriented. They've undertaken a series of anti-draft actions and functions collectively. Recently several key people moved to a rural commune so they need some new blood. Contact Tom Costello for information.

Boston WRL, c/o Olmsted, 28 Lawrence Street, Boston, Mass. 02116. (617) 627-4952

Boston WRL is trying to keep the idea of radical nonviolence alive in the political snakepit of Boston. Program fluctuates and they need people who can be involved more or less full time. Contact Dick Olmsted.

Southampton WRL, c/o Semkus, Box 536, Sag Harbor, N.Y. 11963.

Southampton WRL is student oriented. The main areas of the program is agitation and demonstrations against military recruiters. They are developing a program aimed at educating students about nonviolence and pacifism. Contact Charlie Semkus if you're in the area.

Manhattan Beach WRL, 1014 Duncan Place, Manhattan Beach, California 90266. (213) 379-0315.

This group is high school oriented. They're concerned with non-registration and draft resistance and carry out a war tax resistance progam. Contact Stev Amstrong if you live in the area.

Detroit WRL, 28314 Danvers Court, Farmington, Michigan 48024. (313) 335-0362.

This is a new group that has formed to work on the issues of war and violence and develop nonviolent consciousness. They are developing a high school program (contact Barry Gillogly) and a university program (contact Bill Kaiser or Tom Collins).

Columbus WRL, 30 West Woodruff, Columbus, Ohio 43210.

This group is organizing in and around Ohio State University. Their primary emphasis is the draft (the mailing address is the same as Columbus Draft Project) though they hope to move into the larger community with other issues. Contact Rick Wojick for ways you can get involved.

Milwaukee Area Draft Information Center and WRL, 1618 West Wells, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. (414) 342-0191.

MADIC-WRL recently became a local WRL because of the group's desire to go beyond the draft as an issue. They're engaged in direct action and organizing on a variety of issues connected with war and violence. Contact Hugh Cook for more information on the program of MADIC-WRL and ways you can get involved.

Cobb County WIN, c/o AWIN, Box 7477, Atlanta, Ga. 30309. (404) 875-0646.

Cobb County WIN recently had their office shut down by repressive forces (bomb threats, etc.) so you have to contact them through AWIN. They are continuing their program of draft counseling and resistance work. They are working in the deep south and deserve all our support, particularly money, to open a new office. Write or call Neal Shea for ways you can help. (Neal refused induction recently — Right on Neal!)

In addition to the above groups there are about a dozen efforts to organize local WRL's going on around the country. These are what we could call embryo WRL's and when they reach the stage of being able to organize and work outside the WRL membership we will list them as local WRL's. If you would like to begin organizing a local WRL or would like information on the local WRL program please write to me at the National Office.

A LETTER FROM CESAR CHAVEZ

(Addressed to Igal Roodenko, who along with Jim Peck, represented WRL on last spring's Baltimore-Washington walk to support the grape boycott)

Thank you for your beautiful letter. This is indeed a time of great joy for all of us who are involved in the struggle and we are very glad to be able to share it with all our brothers and sisters who helped make our victory possible by their strong and steady support of the grape boycott and of the farm workers' long struggle for justice and freedom.

We are glad to have you with us, in the struggle and in the joy of victory. (The 5-year-plus organizational struggle ended recently when the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee signed union contracts with a majority of the table grape growers.)

XUM